

FORUM

kirtlandcc.forum@kirtland.af.mil, 846-4240



COL. HENRY L. ANDREWS JR.
377th Air Base Wing commander

Suggestion changes traffic light

I was wondering about the traffic light at the corner of Gibson and Pennsylvania.
Since the Gibson Gate is closed after 8 p.m., would it be possible to have the light flashing after that time?
I’ve come back from temporary duty, sometimes at 2 a.m., and I have to sit and wait for the light to turn green.

Thanks for taking the time to bring this to our attention. We sent our traffic technicians out to evaluate your recommendation and they unanimously thought it was a good idea.
We formally need to run this by the Base Traffic Working Group, which meets in August, for final approval. But we thought in the interim, we’d run a test and put the lights to flash four-way red 8:15 p.m.-5 a.m.
Hopefully we won’t get any complaints and can leave the lights in this configuration. If you see any other traffic problems, please contact the Civil Engineer Customer Service Desk at 846-8222.

Contacting Forum

We want your suggestions and comments concerning Kirtland AFB.
Give base agencies or the chain of command the chance to resolve your concern before calling Forum. Callers’ names won’t be printed.
Write: 377 ABW/CC Forum
2000 Wyoming SE
Kirtland AFB NM 87117

Customer service

- Chapel, 846-5691
- CE 24-hour Help Desk, 846-8222
- Commissary, 846-9586
- Computer help, 846-5926
- Energy wasting, 846-4633
- Exchange Service, 266-9887
- Family Services, 846-0741
- Finance, 846-8045, 846-6639
- Law Enforcement Desk, 846-7926
- Legal Services, 846-4217
- Medical Clinic, 846-3406
- Services Squadron, 853-7679

LETTER

Dear TEAM KIRTLAND,

To all the Big Brothers and Big Sisters from Kirtland AFB, we would like to send our heartfelt appreciation and gratitude for your service to not only our nation, but its future leaders as well.
You have taken the time to serve our country, our people and our future, and are shining examples of not only selflessness, but kindness and compassion as well.
In honor of your service to the nation and community, we would like to share this sentiment with each of you, and future Bigs alike:

Thank you for your selflessness; in many ways, you’ve served us all.
For your kindness and compassion to kids of all ages, both great and small.
For mentoring and tutoring, a future leader(s) of our great nation.
For the many smiles that you share with the children, filling each minute with laughter and joyous sensations.
Sharing hugs and stories with one another,
While sharing time in one another’s lives.
Always learning and growing during the times when you’re both together,
Dreading that last minute when it’s finally time to depart and say
“Good-bye!”
But, before you both realize it, another week goes by and you’re back together.
Oh, how their little eyes light up when they see you.
Their Big Brother or Sister, with whom their time they love to spend.
For a special part are you in one another’s lives:
You’re brothers and sisters, and Forever Best Friends!
Thank you for your service, and for all the love and joy that you send!
From One Big to All the Others!

- Kirtland AFB’s Big Brothers and Sisters are:
- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Paul Altizer | Cheri Farrer | Benjamin Koch | Caroline Rodriguez |
| Caroline Baker | Cameron Gandy | Michelle Lacasse | Rod Rosfeld |
| Kay Beckstead | Ann Marie Graff | Nathan Mallory | Rick Sauerman |
| Joe Berrios | Michael Hadaway | Michael Marlow | John Seamon |
| Judy Bowman | Gina Hamilton | Tania Maybee | Courtney Skalsky |
| Sommer Brooks | Adam Harrington | Andi McNew | Jennifer Sovada |
| LaDonna Brown | Vanessa Hickey | Sean McNew | Andrew Speares |
| Brian Bunch | Katie Hoffman | Courtney Medack | Benjamin Thoele |
| Scott Bussey | Robert Hoffman | Mark Mocio | Matthew Thompson |
| Lynn Canham | Tony Holly | Lynn Montanye | Peter Toves |
| Edward Chatters | Mark Jensik | Jamar Moore | James Vaight |
| Adam Clark | Melissa Johnson | Bruce Olsen | Thomas Valenzuela |
| Matilde Colomo | Sabrina Johnson | Darrell Railsback | Freddie Walker |
| Brent Duncan | Janet King | Dennis Ratlief | Robert Young |
| Aaron Engels | Jason Klinkel | Tammie Ridder | |

Thank You
Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Albuquerque, New Mexico Staff

COMMENTARY


Planner offers financial tips

BY GARY BOYLE
Hill AFB, Utah Public Affairs

For young Airmen, the future can seem like a far away place that can be dealt with later. However, many have learned that today’s decisions will have a compounded effect on tomorrow’s concerns—especially when it comes to finances.
In May, DOD announced a Financial Readiness Campaign focusing on the importance of good financial management habits for junior enlisted people and their families. Financial planning and management help is available at base family support centers.
Dottie Blesse, Hill AFB personal financial manager, briefs Airmen at the First Term Airman Center, Airman Leadership School and the Enlisted Professional Course on topics ranging from how to balance a checkbook to investing for retirement.
She offers a few helpful tips for financial success.

“It’s important to create a home financial plan and then stick to it,” said Blesse. “Create a savings plan and put yourself in it. Treat savings like a bill you pay every month, like you would a car payment.”
Blesse said a recent DOD report indicated E-1s through E-6s have trouble making ends meet and attributes these issues not to income levels but to poor spending habits and financial education. Additionally, an Air Force survey showed that pay grades E-3 through E-5-50 percent of service members—applied for 78 percent of the assistance from

the Air Force Aid Society and had 76 percent of the non-judicial punishment for indebtedness issues.
“If you have a \$5,000 credit card debt, it would take you 22 years to pay it off if you made the minimum payments and never used that card again,” said Blesse. “Interest costs money.
“In this age of instant gratification, it’s important to have self-control. Keep a low credit card limit and pay it off before you use it again.”
Blesse said payday loan and rent-to-own operations provide seemingly easy ways for Airmen to get and spend what they want in between paydays, but at a steep price.
“I have a contract from a local payday loan operation that has a 1,368 percent interest rate,” she said. “These places can charge whatever they want because Utah is one of four states that has no usury laws.
“Rent-to-own can be as much as 265 percent over cost. I ask in my briefing how much people think a microwave costs, the answer is usually anywhere from \$50 to \$100. I had counseled a couple using rent-to-own terms, and we figured their microwave would cost them \$800.”
Blesse encourages Airmen to come see her or their family support center financial planner when money troubles begin rather than when creditors are at the base entry points.
For a confidential financial planning session contact Ethel Tilley, 846-0741 or 846-0751.



NUCLEUS

Col. Henry L. Andrews Jr.
377th Air Base Wing commander
Ralph Francis, 377th Air Base Wing Public Affairs director
Terry E. Walker, editor
Jennifer E. West, editorial assistant/writer
Airman 1st Class Erin Smith, writer

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Force structure changes announced for base, command

Kirtland AFB will see a decrease of 52 civilian and 76 military authorizations, not necessarily people, next fiscal year according to 2004 force structure and realignment information DOD officials released July 23.

Air Force Materiel Command will collectively lose 561 military, 1,018 civilian and 182 drill authorizations.

Command officials said authorization cuts do not automatically translate into employee separations and they are using a wide variety of manpower tools to minimize impact on AFMC people.

Force structure information indicated that 377 military and 1,074 civilian authorizations will be reduced at AFMC bases and units, according to command officials. At non-AFMC units residing on bases belonging to the command, 184 military and 182 drill authorizations will be reduced but 62 civilian authorizations will be added. At AFMC units residing at other locations, military authorizations will decrease by two while civilian authorizations decrease by half a dozen.

Each year Air Force officials provide a force structure announcement to Congress outlining the service's intent to realign, consolidate and enhance unit operations. This announcement addresses the president's budgeted force structure, realignment and management actions required to achieve efficiencies, modernize or make organizational changes, defense department officials said.

It specifies the force structure changes the total force experienced - active duty, Guard and Reserve. Before making any decisions concerning major force movements, Air Force officials said they'd fully comply with the spirit and requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act.

To the extent possible, employees impacted by reductions will be able to take full advantage of the wide array of personnel programs available, officials said. Some of these include career job reservation and retraining opportunities for military members and priority placement, voluntary early retirement authority and the voluntary separation incentive program for civilians.

Kirtland AFB changes:

- ★ The 377th Air Base Wing loses 18 military and 38 civilian authorizations to workforce reshaping.
- ★ The AFMC Office of Aerospace Studies loses one military and two civilian authorizations to workforce reshaping.
- ★ The 58th Special Operations Wing gains 37 military positions to support increases in combat search and rescue and loses eight military and four civilian authorizations as a result of workforce reshaping.
- ★ Space and Missile Systems Center Detachment 12 loses four civilian authorizations as a result of workforce reshaping.
- ★ The Air Force Inspection Agency loses five military and one civilian authorization to workforce reshaping.
- ★ The Air Force Safety Center loses two civilian authorizations to workforce reshaping.
- ★ The Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center loses 68 military and 11 civilian authorizations as a result of workforce reshaping.
- ★ Other minor actions result in a decrease of 13 military and an increase of 10 civilian authorizations.

Changes in New Mexico bases:

Cannon AFB

The 27th Fighter Wing loses eight military and 19 civilian authorizations as a result of workforce shaping.

Holloman AFB

The 49th Fighter Wing loses 28 civilian authorizations as a result of workforce shaping.

The 846th Test Squadron loses one civilian authorization as a result of mission adjustment to the high-speed test track.

The 46th Test Group loses one military and 10 civilian authorizations as a result of workforce shaping.

AFMC's 10 major installations:

Arnold AFB, Tenn.

Arnold Engineering Development Center loses seven civilian authorizations.

Brooks City-Base, Texas

Establishing Brooks City-base resulted 42 military authorizations and 95 civilian authorizations being reduced.

The 311th Human Systems Wing loses six military and 10 civilians from medical annual planning and programming guidance adjustments and nine military and 19 civilian authorizations to workforce reshaping.

The Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence loses three military and one civilian authorization as a result of workforce reshaping.

Other minor actions result in a reduction of four military and 10 civilian authorizations.

Edwards AFB, Calif.

The Air Force Flight Test Center loses 58 military and 125 civilian authorizations as a result of workforce reshaping.

Operating location AK, Aeronautical Systems Center gains four military and eight civilian authorizations from the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, and the Air Armament Center at Eglin AFB, Fla. for special programs.

Adjustments to the Joint Strike Fighter program result in an increase of one military and 11 civilian authorizations in the 412th Test Wing.

The 412th Maintenance Group gains 25 military authorizations because of productivity programs.

The 18th Space Control Squadron inactivates and realigns part of its mission to Peterson AFB, Colo., resulting in the loss of 28 military and four civilian authorizations.

Other minor actions result in an increase of five military and one civilian authorization.

Eglin AFB, Fla.

The Air Armament Center loses 67 military and 132 civilian authorizations as a result of workforce reshaping.

The 28th Test Squadron transfers one military position to the 53rd Test and Evaluation Group at Dyess AFB, Texas.

AAC gains 14 civilian authorizations to support foreign military sales and nine civilian authorizations for special programs. AAC also gains two military acquisition authorizations.

Three military positions are converted to civilian in the 96th Civil Engineering Group.

The 96th Mission Support Squadron gains one military and one civilian authorization for the organizational health center.

Nine civilian authorizations were added to AAC for special programs.

The 53rd Wing loses 18 civilian authorizations and the 33rd Fighter Wing loses one civilian authorization as a result of workforce reshaping.

The 20th Space Control Squadron loses seven civilian authorizations as a result of workforce reshaping.

Other minor mission changes result in a gain of 13 military and loss of two civilian authorizations.

Hanscom AFB, Mass.

The Electronic Systems Center loses 55 military and 81 civilian authorizations as a result of workforce reshaping.

The Air Force Research Laboratory loses eight civilian authorizations, with six realigning to Kirtland AFB, N.M., as a result of manpower restructuring and two reassigned to Sunspot, Ariz.

The Electronic Systems Center converts 19 military authorizations to civilian and seven civilian authorizations are added to support the foreign military sales program.

Other programmatic changes result in a gain of four military and one civilian authorization.

Hill AFB, Utah

The 75th Air Base Wing gains 42 military authorizations to provide base operating support to Air Combat Command units.

The Ogden Air Logistics Center reduces 22 civilian authorizations in the foreign military sales program and loses 43 military and 122 civilian authorizations as a result of workforce reshaping.

The 419th Combat Logistic Support Squadron loses 26 drill authorizations to match wartime requirements.

Other minor actions result in a decrease of six military and an increase of four civilian authorizations.

Robins AFB, Ga.

The Warner Robins Air Logistics Center loses 38 military and 175 civilian authorizations to workforce reshaping.

The ALC loses 37 civilian authorizations to mission adjustments to foreign military sales and special programs.

The 116th Air Control Wing loses 136 military authorizations to the secretary of the Air Force directed blending an air national guard B-1 wing into the active duty E-8C wing.

The wing also receives one E-8C aircraft.

The 622nd Combat Logistics Support Squadron loses 56 drill authorizations to match wartime requirements.

The 19th Air Refueling Wing gains 15 military authorizations for KC-135 crew ratio increase.

The Warner Robins Air Logistics Center gains 34 civilian authorizations due to the Materiel Supply Division Tier 1.

Other mission realignments result in a gain of seven military and five civilian authorizations.

Tinker AFB, Okla.

The Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center gains 34 civilian authorizations to support materiel supply workload and loses 25 military and 153 civilian authorizations to workforce reshaping.

The 507th Air Refueling Wing increases the crew ratio for authorized KC-135 aircraft, resulting in an increase of 11 civilian and three drill positions.

Operating location AB, Standard Systems Group, Electronic Systems Center loses three civilian authorizations and the 38th Engineering and Installation Group loses 12 civilian authorizations as a result of workforce reshaping.

The 507th Combat Logistics Support Squadron loses 42 drill authorizations to match wartime requirements.

Other minor actions result in the decrease of two military and three civilian authorizations.

Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

The Air Force Institute of Technology gains 15 military and 73 civilian positions for increases to the Air Force in-resident graduate education program and loses two military and four civilian authorizations as a result of workforce reshaping.

The 338th Recruiting Squadron loses one military and one civilian authorization as a result of workforce reshaping.

The 74th Medical Group decreases 16 military and two civilian authorizations from medical annual planning and programming guidance adjustments.

The Air Force Research Lab increases eight military and 15 civilian authorizations as a result of mission transfers.

The Air Force Petroleum Office gains 22 civilian authorizations from Lackland AFB, Texas.

The Aeronautical Systems Center loses 53 military and 214 civilian authorizations as a result of workforce reshaping.

ASC also loses one military and gains 42 civilian authorizations to support the foreign military sales program.

AFMC field operating agencies lose five military and 16 civilian authorizations and operating location C, 46th Operations Group, loses 20 civilian authorizations as a result of workforce reshaping.

Operating location WP, Detachment 3, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center loses one civilian authorization and the Air Force Research Lab loses one military and one civilian authorization as a result of workforce reshaping.

The 88th Air Base Wing converts 13 military authorizations to civilian and the Aeronautical Systems Center converts 19 military authorizations to civilian as a result of workforce reshaping. Mission adjustments to classified programs will result in an increase of three military and 12 civilian authorizations.

The 445th Airlift Wing retires eight C-141 aircraft. The 445th Combat Logistic Support Squadron loses 61 drill authorizations to match wartime requirements.

Other minor actions result in an increase of two military and five civilian authorizations.